basis of information collected in different rounds of National Sample Survey (NSS) Therefore, variation in the estimates of working children based on NSS data and actual number of working children based on census data cannot be ruled out.

**Industries Closed due to Labour Problems in Bihar and Orissa**

3535. SHRI JANARDHAN YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial units closed due to labour problems during the last two years in Bihar and Orissa;

(b) the estimated loss in terms of production and mandays;

(c) the steps being taken to restart those units; and

(d) the steps being taken to prevent the disputes?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) Informatin is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Setting up of a Manpower Export Council (MEC)**

3536. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up a Manpower Export Council (MEC) to streamline the procedure for exporting human resources; and

(b) if so, by when it would start to explore largest skilled manpower pool for export which India possesses?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) A proposal to set up a Manpower Export Promotion Council (MEPC) to render promotional and advisory services is under examination of Government. Question of setting a time schedule for this purpose will arise only if a decision to set up the proposed council is taken dependent upon other concerned Ministries/Departments of Government agreeing to it.

**Relaxation to IOC and other PSUs for Non-implementation of Act No. 25 of 1996**

3537. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any relaxation to Indian Oil Corporation Limited and other PSUs for implementation of Act No. 25 of 1996 in the matter of Employees Pension Scheme, 1995;

(b) if so, when and how this relaxation is given;

(c) whether RPFC, Maharashtra and CPFC, New Delhi have recommended the Exemption Application of M/s. Indian Oil Corporation Limited and others to Ministry of Labour, knowing fully well that Indian Oil Corporation and other PSUs are deducting EPF amount from employees till date and had not yet implemented the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995;

(d) if so, the reasons and justification shown by RPFC and CPFC; and

(e) whether Government have received complaints from employees or associations in view of (a) and (b) and if so, the directives given to employees and associations, particularly by Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Some representations have been received from the employees for implementation of the Employees' Pension Scheme in the Indian Oil Corporation. The representations received in this regard have been referred to the EPF Organisation for comments.